

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

SAJ-01 /068 W

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R 181403Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8866

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER

EUCOM

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 3099

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) EARLY ELECTION

BILL FAILS

REF: ANKARA 2666

1. AFTER FAILING TO MUSTER A QUORUM FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE SESSIONS, THE TURKISH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APRIL 17 VOTED 205 AGAINST 172 TO REJECT THE REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP)'S MOTION FOR EARLY ELECTIONS. WHILE THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT MAINTAINED ITS COHESIUN, 24 RPP AND 18 DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) DEPUTIES WERE ABSENT DURING THE VOTE. ONE DP MEMBER VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION. ACCORDING TO PUBLISHED REPORTS, THE RPP INTENDS TO TURN THE ABSENT 24 MEMBERS OVER TO ITS

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DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE FOR JUDGMENT.

2. COMMENT: THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT CAN LOOK UPON THE REJECTION OF THE EARLY ELECTION MOTION AS FURTHER CONFIRMATION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LEGITIMACY OF THE NATIONALIST FRONT COALITION; HAD ALL THE ABSENT MEMBERS BEEN PRESENT AND VOTED ALONG PARTY LINES, THE EARLY ELECTION PROPOSAL COULD HAVE BEEN CARRIED BY A MARGIN OF TEN VOTES (215 TO 205). ALTHOUGH THE DEFEAT OBVIOUSLY DEALS A BLOW TO THE OPPOSITIONS'S HOPES OF QUICKLY UNSEATING THE GOVERNMENT, THE ABSENCES PROBABLY CAN BE ATTRIBUTED MORE TO INDIVIDUAL DEPUTIES' FEARS OF LOSING THEIR SEATS THAN TO ANY SHIFT IN PARTY LOYALTIES.
MACOMBER

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